IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 10 without prejudice to the subject matter therein.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) A punching machine according to Claim ~~13~~ 14, wherein the workpiece (W) is sheet shaped material uncoiled from a coiled material.

13. (currently amended) A punching machine according to Claim ~~10~~ 14, wherein the first positioning device (53) is located at one side of the working head (8, 9, 11) on the table (33, 35); and

wherein the second positioning device is located at the other side of the working head on the table so that the working head is located between the first positioning device (53) and the second positioning device (69) so as to be sandwiched by the first positioning device and the second positioning device.

14. (currently amended) A punching machine ~~according to Claim 10~~, comprising:

a body frame having a table (33, 35), the table supporting a workpiece (W) to be worked;

a first positioning device (53) mounted on the table, the first positioning device (53) having a first drive motor (49), the first positioning device positioning the workpiece in a first direction (X) by the first drive motor (49);

a second positioning device (69) mounted on the table, the second positioning device (69) having a second drive motor (65), the second positioning device positioning the workpiece in the first direction (X) by the second drive motor (65); and

a working head (8, 9, 11) mounted in the body frame so as to be positioned in a second direction (Y) perpendicular to the first direction to punch the workpiece, thereby punching the workpiece along the second direction,

wherein the first positioning device (53) and the second positioning device (69) are arranged in series in the first direction (X), thereby the workpiece (W) is transferred only in the first direction by one of the first positioning device and the second positioning device; and the workpiece is not transferred in the second direction (Y);

wherein the first positioning device (53) and the second positioning device (69) are constructed in a manner such that the first positioning device and the second positioning device may alternately transfer the workpiece (W) in the first direction (X) during punching operation by alternate drives from the first drive motor (49) and the second drive motor (65), so that the workpiece (W) can be advancingly shifted in the first direction (X) by alternative operations of the first positioning device (53) and the second positioning device (69), and that the workpiece (W) can be reversingly shifted in the first direction (X) by the alternative operations of the first positioning device (53) and the second positioning device (69);

wherein the first positioning device (53) includes a first clamp (53C, 53D) to clamp a first margin of the workpiece (W) in the first direction;

wherein the first positioning device (53) further includes a second clamp (53A, 53B) to clamp a second margin opposite to the first margin of the workpiece wherein the second clamp is fixedly mounted to the first positioning device; ~~and~~

wherein the first positioning device (53) still further includes a first approaching motor (83) to approach the first clamp (53C, 53D) to the second clamp (53A, 53B); and

wherein the first clamp is movably mounted to the first positioning device in the second direction (Y) so that the first clamp can be moved to approach the second clamp in the second direction thereby enabling the clamping of the workpiece even though a size of the workpiece in the second direction varies during punching operation.

15. (cancelled)

16. (currently amended) A punching machine ~~according to Claim 14~~, comprising:

a body frame having a table (33, 35), the table supporting a workpiece (W) to be worked;

a first positioning device (53) mounted on the table, the first positioning device (53) having a first drive motor (49), the first positioning device positioning the workpiece in a first direction (X) by the first drive motor (49);

a second positioning device (69) mounted on the table, the second positioning device (69) having a second drive motor (65), the second positioning device positioning the workpiece in the first direction (X) by the second drive motor (65); and

a working head (8, 9, 11) mounted in the body frame so as to be positioned in a second direction (Y) perpendicular to the first direction to punch the workpiece, thereby punching the workpiece along the second direction,

wherein the first positioning device (53) and the second positioning device (69) are arranged in series in the first direction (X), thereby the workpiece (W) is transferred only in the first direction by one of the first positioning device and the second positioning device; and the workpiece is not transferred in the second direction (Y);

wherein the first positioning device (53) and the second positioning device (69) are constructed in a manner such that the first positioning device and the second positioning device may alternately transfer the workpiece (W) in the first direction (X) during punching operation by alternate drives from the first drive motor (49) and the second drive motor (65), so that the workpiece (W) can be advancingly shifted in the first direction (X) by alternative operations of the first positioning device (53) and the second positioning device (69), and that the workpiece (W) can be reversingly shifted in the first direction (X) by the alternative operations of the first positioning device (53) and the second positioning device (69);

wherein the second positioning device (69) includes a third clamp (69C, 69D) to clamp the first margin of the workpiece (W) in the first direction;

wherein the second positioning device (69) further includes a fourth clamp (69A, 69B) to clamp the second margin opposite to the first margin of the workpiece wherein the fourth clamp is fixedly mounted to the second positioning device; ~~and~~

wherein the second positioning device (69) still further includes a second approaching motor (83) to approach the third clamp (69C, 69D) to the fourth clamp (69A, 69B); and

wherein the third clamp is movably mounted to the second positioning device in the second direction (Y) so that the third clamp can be moved to approach to the fourth clamp in the second direction thereby enabling the clamping of the workpiece even though the size of the workpiece in the second direction varies.